

Appl. No. 09/492,081
Amendment dated June 17, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 17, 2004

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A monitor device for displaying output images ~~effrom~~ a plurality of computers, comprising:

- a plurality of display data ~~interfacing~~interface units for ~~entering~~receiving display data from individual computers;
- a plurality of communication data ~~interfacing~~interface units for ~~carrying out~~ inputting/outputting of communication data including destination information and alteration information for a form of superposed displaying of said display data, from/to between individual computers;
- a superposed display unit for superposed displaying of two or more images ~~represented by display data entered into~~received from two or more of said display data ~~interfacing~~interface units; and
- a display controller for altering the form of the superposed displaying of said display data on the basis of ~~communication data for instructing alteration in said form of superposed displaying, entered into~~said alteration information included in said communication data input, via said communication data ~~interfacing~~interface units;
- a communication controller for controlling transmission of said communication data input, via said communication data interface units, to any one of said display controller and individual computers on the basis of said destination information included in said communication data.

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wherein said communication controller is also configured to receive input information from an input device, to transmit said input information as said communication data to said display controller if said input information includes alteration information for the form of superposed displaying of said display data, or alternatively, to transmit said input information as said communication data to any one of said individual computers, via said communication data interface units, on the basis of switching by said input device if said input information includes information other than said alteration information.

Claims 2-3 (Canceled):

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A monitor device, as claimed in

Claim 1, wherein:

said alteration information includes information indicating display characteristics of images represented by said display data; and

said display controller alters the display characteristics of the monitor device images on the basis of said alteration information included in said communication data instructing the alteration of the display characteristics of the monitor device entered into input, via said communication data interfacing unit interface units.

Claim 5 (Canceled):

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Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A monitor device, as claimed in

Claim 21, wherein:

said alteration information includes information indicating display characteristics of images represented by said display data; and

said display controller alters the display characteristics of the monitor device images on the basis of said alteration information included in said communication input data instructing the alteration of the display characteristics of the monitor device entered into input, via said input device, data interfacing unit.

Claim 7 (Canceled):

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A monitor device, as claimed in Claim 1,

having:

a communication data repeater for supplying, from a second communication data interfacing unit to a second computer communication data, entered from a first computer, carrying out inputting/outputting of communication data from/to first said communication data interfacing unit into first said communication data interfacing unit and destined for the second computer carrying out inputting/outputting of communication data from/to second said communication data interfacing unit where in said communication controller receives communication data input from a first computer, via a first communication data interface unit, destined for a second computer, and transmits said communication data to the second computer, via a second communication interface unit.

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Claims 9-10 (Canceled):

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A monitor device, as claimed in
 Claim 1, ~~having further comprising:~~
 an image data input ~~interfacing interface~~ unit for ~~entering inputting~~ image data
 from a camera,
 wherein said superposed display unit performs superposed displaying of not
 only two or more images represented by display data entered into ~~input~~, via two or
 more of said display data ~~interfacing interface~~ units, but also images represented by
 image data entered into ~~input from the camera~~, via said image data input
~~interfacing interface~~ unit.

Claims 12-14 (Canceled):

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A monitor device, as claimed in
 Claim 14, wherein:
 said superposed display unit displays, as said superposed ~~display displaying~~,
 an image frame represented by a ~~first window in which first~~ display data entered into
 a second ~~input~~, via a first display data ~~interfacing interface~~ unit is displayed within in a
 second display data input, via a second display data interface unit, and
 window within an image frame represented by display data entered into a first
 display data ~~interfacing unit~~, and said display controller alters, as alteration of said ~~the~~
 form of superposed ~~display displaying~~, the position and size of the a second window
 in which ~~the second display data input~~, via said second display data interface unit, is

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~~displayed to display an image frame represented by display data entered into the
second said display data interfacing unit.~~

Claims 16-20 (Canceled):

Claim 21 (New): A monitor device for displaying images from a plurality of computers, comprising:

- a display panel;
- first interface units coupled to receive display data from at least first and second computers;
- second interface units coupled to input/output communication data including destination information and alteration information from/to first and second computers;
- a communication controller coupled to the second interface units, to identify the destination of said communication data and enable transmission of said communication data based on the destination information, including one of the first and second computers, via the second interface units; and
- a display controller coupled to the first interface units, to superpose display data received from the first and second computers, via the first interface units, for superposed "picture-in-picture" displaying of said display data received from the first and second computers on the display panel;
- wherein the display controller is also configured to alter display characteristics of the superposed "picture-in-picture" displaying of said display data received from the first and second computers on the display panel, on the basis of the alteration

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information included in said communication data from one of the first and second computers.

Claim 22 (New): A monitor device as claimed in Claim 21, wherein the communication controller is also configured to receive input information from an input device, to transmit said input information as said communication data to the display controller if said input information includes alteration information for superposed "picture-in-picture" displaying of said display data, or alternatively, to transmit said input information as said communication data to one of the first and second computers, via the second interface units, if said input information includes information other than said alteration information

Claim 23 (New): A monitor device as claimed in Claim 21, wherein:
the alteration information includes information indicating display characteristics of images represented by said display data on the display panel; and
the display controller alters the display characteristics of the images on the basis of the alteration information included in said communication data input, via the second interface units.

Claim 24 (New): A monitor device as claimed in Claim 21, wherein:
the alteration information includes information indicating display characteristics of images represented by said display data on the display panel; and

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the display controller alters the display characteristics of the images on the basis of the alteration information included in the input data input, via said input device.

Claim 25 (New): A monitor device as claimed in Claim 21, further comprising:

an image data interface unit for inputting image data from a camera,
wherein said superposed display unit performs superposed displaying of not only display data from the first and second computers, via the first interface units, but also image data from the camera input, via the image data interface unit.

Claim 26 (New): A monitor device as claimed in Claim 21, wherein the communication controller comprises:

a communication data identifier unit arranged to identify the destination of said communication data received from one of the first and second computers, to transmit said communication data received from the first computer to the second computer if the destination is the second computer, via the second interface units, or alternatively, to transmit said communication data received from the second computer to the first computer, via the second interface units;

a window information generating unit arranged to generate a resolution signal and a display position signal to the display controller for controlling the resolution and position of images corresponding to display data from the second computer, on the display panel; and

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a data conversion generating unit arranged to generate display control signals to the display controller for controlling the contrast, brightness and position adjustment of images corresponding to display data from the first and second computers, on the display panel.

Claim 27 (New): A monitor device as claimed in Claim 26, wherein the display controller comprises:

- a first data converter arranged to convert display data received from the first computer into first parallel data;
- a second data converter arranged to convert display data received from the second computer into second parallel data;
- a resolution-frequency converter arranged to subject the second parallel data to resolution conversion in accordance with the resolution signal and frequency conversion to match with that of the first parallel data, and generate window display parallel data; and
- a data selector arranged to select between the first parallel data and the window display parallel data in accordance with the display position signal, and to provide superposed "picture-in-picture" displaying of said display data.